

DETAILED ACTION

Terminal Disclaimer

1. The terminal disclaimer filed on March 28, 2011 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of U.S. Patent No. 7,780,925 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-7 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
4. Regarding Claims 1 and 7, the closest prior art, **Foster et al. (US Patent No. 4,976,928)** discloses the claimed apparatus and process except for the reactor of Foster et al. is adiabatic and thus cannot operate in pseudo-isothermal conditions. Another prior art, **Koves (US Patent No. 5,405,586)** discloses the claimed apparatus and process except for the isothermal reactor of Koves uses alternate interleaved layers of plate heat exchange elements and reactant channels containing catalyst bed (**Figure 2**) and there is only one radial reaction zone while the claimed apparatus and process recite a radial reaction zone comprising a respective catalyst bed and a plurality of heat exchangers placed in said respective catalytic bed and comprises two reaction zones.
5. Claims 2-6 directly or indirectly depend on Claim 1.

Art Unit: 1774

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUY-TRAM NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)270-3167. The examiner can normally be reached on MON- THURS: 6:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Walter Griffin can be reached on 571-272-1447. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1774

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Huy-Tram Nguyen/
Examiner, Art Unit 1774

/Walter D. Griffin/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1774